S.19

5

What is claimed is:

1. A method for controlling a drive unit of a vehicle, the method comprising the steps of:

adjusting an output quantity of said drive unit in dependence upon desired value input quantities; and,

W OTTESEN PATENT ATTORNEY

to make the adjustment of said output quantity, forming a desired value which considers said desired value input quantities in a sequence of their priorities.

- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein, when forming said desired value, the method comprises the further step of considering said desired value input quantities starting with the desired value input quantity having the lowest priority.
- 3. The method of claim 1, comprises the further step of coupling said desired value input quantities to different priorities, respectively.
- 4. The method of claim 1, wherein said desired value input quantities limit said desired value or shift said desired value by an additive amount.
- 5. The method of claim 1, wherein a priority is permanently assigned to each one of said desired value input quantities.
- 6. The method of claim 1, wherein a priority is variably assigned to each one of said desired value input quantities.
- 7. The method of claim 6, wherein said priorities are assigned

S.20

in dependence upon the operating state of said vehicle.

- 8. The method of claim 1, wherein different types of desired value input quantities are considered by different modules; and, the same types of desired value input quantities are each considered by a single module for forming said desired value.
- 9. The method of claim 1, wherein a desired torque is selected as said desired value.